



Massachusetts Urban & Community Forestry Program

The Citizen Forester

OCTOBER 2012

Fall is for Planting....or is it?

By Rick W. Harper
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Here in many of the more moderate parts of the Northeast, we've grown accustomed to the adage

"Fall is for Planting." After all, whether it's a lone specimen tree for our yard, or performing a large community urban (re)greening effort, we know that there are many factors that work together to make the onset of autumn a more ideal time to establish the woody plants that we so desire.

Even the most humble agronomist will argue, it's all about the soil. And since research has historically told us that important factors like soil temperature, water and nitrogen availability can fluctuate and influence root respiration (and growth) rates, it is important to give **careful consideration as to what is taking place "below ground" in the fall.** While preferential temperatures can vary from plant to plant, several weeks of 60-70 deg F at 6-12" depth has been one of the standard ranges considered desirable for the root growth and development

necessary for successful plant establishment. Additionally, fall soil moisture levels – often as a result of decreased daytime temperatures – aid in the increased mineralization of nitrogen, making the subsurface environment even more hospitable for woody plant roots.

In addition to soil-related factors, we know that many of the physiological changes that take place in a desirable woody ornamental near the end of the growing season, make the plant itself more conducive to planting. By the end of summer, trees are generally producing little – if any – shoot growth and are well into the seasonal **"hardening off" (forming lignified tis-**

sue, setting bud) phase. Since they typically require less water at this time of year, they are less prone to the stresses related to moisture levels and may not require any supplemental water to facilitate establishment, other than natural rainfall. They are also better able to delegate the resources they are still deriving from ongoing photosynthesis to root growth and development which will continue as long as soil temperatures remain above 40-45 deg F.

By now one may ask, are there *any* drawbacks associated with planting in the fall? As with most situations, there are almost always positive and negative factors to consider. By the time we reach the latter stages of the growing season, plant availability in the nursery or garden center may be limited. Also, by this time of year, there may be questions associated with the state of quality related to the plant material: When was the tree dug? What type of attention did it receive after the dig? What sort of **environment was it being "held" in? Where was it stored** throughout the hot summer months?

And what of those "fall rains" that everyone speaks of?

Do the data really show that we experience an increase in precipitation after the hot, hazy, humid days of July and



Hemlock sp. installed in the fall (9/30/03) demonstrating the effects of winter desiccation.
Photo: R. Harper, Spring 2004.

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Fall is for Planting....or is it?

(Continued from page 1)

August? When we look at the 30-year average of weather data throughout the Northeast we see that in 19 of these years, summer months (June-August) were wetter than the fall months (September-November) and offered on average 6.6% more rainfall over the 30-year period! In addition to less rain, evapotranspiration rates **(the rate at which plants “lose” water) can be surprisingly significant** in the fall as humidity levels drop, facilitating plant water loss. Also, keep in mind that as of this month, the entire Commonwealth of Massachusetts is **still considered to be in a state that is “abnormally dry”** relative to rainfall.

In addition to seasonal moisture levels, it has also been documented that difficult-to- transplant trees like some of the Oaks (*Quercus* spp.), Black-gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*), Hop-hornbeam (*Ostrya virginiana*) do not establish well following a fall planting. Other common urban trees on that list include some of the Maples (*Acer rubrum*), Birches (*Betula* spp.), Dogwoods (*Cornus* spp.), Bald cypress (*Taxodium distichum*), Lindens (*Tilia tomentosa*), Golden Rain-Tree (*Koelreuteria paniculata*), Zelkova (*Zelkova serrata*), Pear (*Pyrus* spp.) and Blue-Beech/ Hornbeam (*Carpinus caroliniana*).

Of course one of the primary concerns associated with a fall planting relates to the relationship between the sudden onset of cold weather and the time of installation. A rule of thumb relative to fall planting includes the establishment of deciduous plants commencing in late August through the early part of October in most parts of the Commonwealth (Zones 4-6). **A plant that hasn't yet successfully become established, however, may be especially prone to injury from an early freeze.** Following this of course are the harsh conditions associated with a New England winter that may bring a poorly established tree **to its demise.** So perhaps we can tweak the adage “*Fall is for Planting*” to “*Fall is often for planting*” while keeping in mind that the details may ultimately dictate the outcome.

For more information, the guide *Planting and Maintaining Trees & Shrubs* by George Good and Richard Weir III may be accessed free of charge by visiting: <http://ecommons.library.cornell.edu/handle/1813/3572>

EAB in Massachusetts

On September 12, DCR Commissioner Edward M. Lambert, Jr. announced the discovery of emerald ash borer in Massachusetts, marking the first time the insect has been identified in the Commonwealth. The beetle was found in a trap on August 31 in Dalton, a town in Berkshire County. During the week of September 3, the identification was confirmed. The state will define a quarantine area to restrict the movement of wood and survey to delimit the extent of the infestation.

The press release can be found here: <http://www.mass.gov/dcr/news/2012/9-12PR.pdf>



Photos left to right from top (click for link): Adult-David Cappaert, Michigan State University; larvae-David Cappaert, Michigan State University; Vertical split- Dave Roberts, Michigan State University; Sucker growth-James W. Smith, USDA APHIS, PPQ; Exit hole and gallery-Mollie Freilicher.

Species Spotlight—Persimmon, *Diospyros virginiana*

By Mollie Freilicher
MA-DCR
Community Action Forester

This is the time of year when we see the bright orange fruit of the persimmon tree ripen. While not too common in the landscape, the tree can be a distinctive addition to the urban forest. Massachusetts is just north of

common persimmon's native range from southern Connecticut to Florida, but the tree can do well here, especially in areas that are at or above USDA hardiness zone 6. It naturally occurs in alluvial soils, drier uplands and disturbed sites, as well such as along roadsides, abandoned fields, and clearings. Common persimmon is a small to medium sized tree, reaching heights of 60 feet and spreading up to 35 feet. The crown is often rounded, but branches are crooked, giving the tree a somewhat coarse texture in winter.



The leaves of common persimmon are alternate, simple, ovate, and 2 ½ to 5 inches long. They are a lustrous green above and paler below, turning yellow in the fall. Buds are solitary, triangular, and burgundy to black,

with two overlapping bud scales. Flowers are dioecious, fragrant, and bell-shaped, with a 4-lobed white corolla. The bark is dark gray or brown and deeply furrowed into small square blocks.

The fruit, a 5/8" to 1"

berry, develops on the female trees and starts to ripen in September or October after the first frost. The fruit continues to ripen as the leaves fall off the tree, leaving a fall display of orange fruit.



Once the fruit is very soft, it is ripe, usually by the end of October. Trying to eat an unripe persimmon is probably a mistake you will only make once. The fruit is edible and provides food for wildlife such as raccoons, opossums, skunks, foxes, deer, and birds. The fresh fruit is quite astringent, even when ripe, and is more often cooked in quickbreads, puddings, and cakes. Native Americans used persimmon fruit for **breads and dried the fruit; in fact the word "persimmon"** is from the Algonquin language. The colonists at James-

town learned to eat the ripe fruit and found the fruit "very sweet and pleasant to the taste, and yields on distillation, after fermentation, a quality of spirits." They also learned not to eat the unripe fruit, as Captain John Smith found, **"If it not be ripe, it will draw a man's mouth awrie with much torment" (Goodell 1982).** You can gather fruit by picking what you can reach by hand and knocking higher fruit off with a stick. (Watch your head!)

The hard and close-grained wood has been used for golf clubs, weaving shuttles, and veneer. Common persimmon is in the same genus as tropical ebony and also has dark heartwood, however, it does not dry well, making common persimmon not very suitable for lumber.



Common persimmon can be an interesting addition to a park, golf course, or other open space with its fall color, and striking fruit. There are many cultivars available that have excellent fruit or other characteristics. Common persimmon is often used in permaculture and edible landscaping (see <http://youtu.be/Q431DMyK0fI> and <http://youtu.be/0NLI-a9RFc>).

Additional resources:

Arnoldia in the kitchen. Persimmon pudding: <http://arnoldia.arboretum.harvard.edu/pdf/articles/1972-32-2-arnoldia-in-the-kitchen.pdf>

Goodell, E. 1982. Two Promising Fruit Plants for Northern Landscapes. *Arnoldia*. 42(4): 103-134.

<http://arnoldia.arboretum.harvard.edu/pdf/articles/1138.pdf>

UConn Plant Database:

<http://www.hort.uconn.edu/plants/d/diovir/diovir1.html>

Thanks to Russ Cohen for contributing recipes, **video links, and other information to this month's species spotlight.**

Photos: Leaf and bark: Mollie Freilicher; Fruit: Bruce Crossing; Form: Virginia Tech



EAB Workshop Overview—September 18

On September 18, over 70 landowners, foresters, timber harvester, arborists, and municipal officials gathered at the Crane Model Farm in Dalton to learn about emerald ash borer. The day began with a welcome by Deputy DCR Commissioner Jack Murray, who spoke about the impact of the pest and the role of the Commonwealth in managing the infestation. Murray informed the crowd that the Commonwealth has over 45 million ash trees, with most concentrated in the western part of the state, so stakes will be high for some communities and landowners.

The audience heard the landowner perspective from Stephen Long, Harvard Forest Bullard Fellow and co-founder of *Northern Woodlands Magazine*. Long discussed the bittersweet elements of his relationship with ash as a tree in his woods and his decision to harvest ash on his own property. He also discussed the role ash wood has played in tool-making and building, as well as the cultural role for Native American groups who weave baskets from black ash.

Ken Gooch, DCR Forest Health Program Supervisor, provided a forest health update, informing the audience about this year's drought, white pine defoliation, the cynipid gall wasp that has been plaguing Martha's Vineyard and Cape Cod recently, red pine scale and *Diplodia* blight on red pines, as well as other diseases and issues the Commonwealth's trees have faced this year. Patty Douglass, State Plant Health Director for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal Plant Health Inspection Service, gave the federal perspective on quarantine and regulation with Gooch following up with the state perspective. It will likely be several weeks before a quarantine is determined, following at least one public meeting in Berkshire County.

Nate Siegert, Forest Entomologist for the USDA Forest Service gave two talks. He presented on many aspects of EAB, including the biology of the beetle, signs and symptoms of infestation, biocontrol, insecticide treatments, population spread, forest management considerations, and tools for pest management, as well as presenting a lot of new research he has been involved with on the

beetle. He warned that if nothing is done to control the infestation, the population will expand and the rate of spread will increase, threatening new areas and increasing damage where the pest is already found.

Eric Seaborn and Mollie Freilicher from the DCR Urban and Community Forestry Program presented on how municipalities can prepare for and respond to emerald ash borer, primarily by creating a response plan. A response plan addresses many of the issues that will arise after EAB such as, who is in charge of the infestation, where the wood will go from ash trees that are cut, and how municipalities will continue day-to-day management in light of EAB. They also discussed replanting and insecticide treatments for landscape trees.

Lastly, Peter Grima, DCR Service Forester for the northern Berkshires (and former DCR Outreach Service Forester), presented on the legacy of ash and promoting wood products made from ash trees. He discussed the importance of creating or taking advantage of any market that may be out there in the state for ash products from local wood. Grima has written about local wood in this publication (see [March 2012](#)). As Grima stated in his presentation, a lot of

the marketing for ash wood has already been done, pointing out that the public is aware of EAB and the loss of trees, making it that much easier to inform the public of the value of wood from these trees.

Thanks to the speakers for participating in the workshop and special thanks to the Crane Family and Crane & Co. for donating the use of the Crane Model Farm for the workshop; thanks to the Working Forest Initiative and Kent Lage from the Massachusetts Farm Bureau for making the workshop possible; and thanks to DCR Service Foresters Mike Downey and Peter Grima for organizing the workshop with support from Ken Gooch, DCR Forest Health Program Supervisor, and Jennifer Fish, Director of DCR Service Forestry Program.

Additional workshops will be held in the state in the coming months. Information will be posted in *The Citizen Forester* and through the listserv.



Nate Siegert, USDA Forest Service, Forest Entomologist presents to the audience.

Register Now for Tree Steward Training

The DCR Tree Steward Training will be held October 19-20 at the Harvard Forest in Petersham. The Tree Steward Training will provide an overview of tree benefits and urban forestry issues, tree identification, proper tree planting techniques, tree assessment and response to pruning, working with your utility arborist, funding urban and community forestry, urban trees and the 2012 growing season, sustainable urban soils, utilizing your tree inventory, and an introduction to i-Tree suite of software tools for urban forestry managers. Registration is now open. For information on tree steward trainings, see the September issue of The Citizen Forester.

For more information and to register, see <http://www.mass.gov/dcr/stewardship/forestry/urban/urbanBranch.htm>.

Registration materials are on pages 10 - 11 and are posted on the MA-DCR U&CF website along with additional information: <http://www.mass.gov/dcr/stewardship/forestry/urban/urbanBranch.htm>. For more information on the training, contact mollie.freilicher@state.ma.us, 413-577-2966.

Registration Deadline: October 10

Big Trees in Fall River

By Mary Ann Wordell
President of the Fall River Street Tree Planting Program

Mary Ann Wordell, President of the Fall River Street Tree Planting Program, wishes the two state champion trees in Fall River could tell a history of the people who planted them and the families that nurtured them. And they have been well nurtured as their sizes have proven.

Two years ago a massive beech, *Fagus sylvatica*, that measures 293 inches in circumference and is 92 feet tall with a canopy spread of 42 feet, was declared the state champion beech. And just this past August a tulip poplar, *Liriodendron tulipifera*, was dubbed a Champion Tree by the Dept. of Conservation and Recreation bumping out the former champion tulip poplar in Easthampton.

The new champion measures 126 feet in height, 217 inches in circumference and has an average canopy spread of 67 feet. Licensed arborists measured both trees with a DCR member confirming the measurements.

The National Register of Champion Trees, compiled by American Forests, indicates that the largest Tulip Poplar in the United States is located in Chesapeake, Va. That

one is 393 inches in circumference, is 116 feet tall and has a crown spread of 83 feet. No records were found for a European beech on the National Register.

The state of Florida has the most champion trees with 5 states having no state champions.

To search the American Forests Big Tree registry go to: <http://www.americanforests.org/our-programs/bigtree/>



The state champion tulip poplar in Fall River.

Growing on Trees

NeighborWoods Month

JOIN THE CELEBRATION

October is National NeighborWoods™ Month



In one month, tens of thousands of volunteers will take action as part of a nationwide campaign to green our cities and towns--and we want YOU to be a part of the celebration! [Sign up now!](#)

During National NeighborWoods™ Month, your local action shows that trees matter in your city, and that people all across the country care about living in healthy, vibrant communities. Community organizations and civic lead-

ers are working hard to make neighborhoods cleaner and greener by planting and caring for trees, and we want to make sure your local work is counted.

Anyone who plants, cares for, or educates about trees during October should be part of National NeighborWoods™ Month.



By [registering](#) your October tree plantings, workshops, tours, or trainings and joining the national campaign, you'll be part of something bigger than just your own projects. You'll be connected to the greater movement to protect and grow urban and community forests nationwide.

[Get free gear just by registering.](#) We're making it easy to **celebrate National NeighborWoods™ Month.** As soon as you register your tree activities, we'll send you free **NeighborWoods™ t-shirts**, tool samples, kids activity cards, a poster, banner, and coupons for savings on tools and supplies. Use them to enhance your October events, or give them as prizes to volunteers. And be sure to send **us pictures of you and your free NeighborWoods™ gear!** [Find out more.](#)

Register your events, download free resources, and learn more at www.NeighborWoodsMonth.org. We'll send you free gear and goodies when you register, and we'll keep you updated each week with this National NeighborWoods™ Month Newsletter.

What's Happening on the Grove?

The Grove is an advertising-free, networking website that is a partnership between the USDA-Forest Service and the Georgia Urban Forest Council. [Sign up for free](#) and [join the Massachusetts Grove](#) and read about and post information on tree planting and urban forestry activities in your community. Share pictures or stories from events, post information for an upcoming project, recruit volunteers, and learn about urban forestry activities in your state and around the country by joining The Grove.

Stories recently posted on the Grove:
[Fall Color - How does it work? Get the facts...](#)
[Shinrin-Yoku--Wood-Air Breathing](#)
[Sweet Gum Trees. More than Meets the Eye](#)
[Old Growth Forests and Happy Labor Day](#)

Check in with the Grove as often as you like, or simply receive emails when we make updates to the Massachusetts Grove: www.massachusettsgrove.org

NEC-ISA 46th Annual Conference, Nov 11-13, 2012 "A Changing Industry in a Changing World" Newport Marriott, Newport, Rhode Island New England Chapter,

International Society of Arboriculture
 Featuring, Keynote speaker, Sharon Lilly, on education and training from ISA. Other topics include: "Research Advancements that Guide Tree Management," "The Changing Workforce and Training in Arboriculture," "Condition Assessment of Urban/Utility Forests of Southeastern New England," "Managing an Invasive Pest --Winter Moth Update," and MORE. Go to www.newenglandisa.org for complete schedule.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION:
[Brochure](#) or [Online](#)

SUNDAY - [Trek des Trees](#): Educational & Fun Walk (9-12pm). [Online](#) registration

SUNDAY Beech Tree Workshop (1-4pm)
[Flyer](#) and [Online](#) registration

Growing on Trees

News

Experts study sturdy

Berkshire elm trees

By Ned Oliver Berkshire Eagle (MA), August 23, 2012

PITTSFIELD, Mass.—A lone American elm stands 50 feet tall on a thin strip of roadside grass in a quiet neighborhood off South Street.

In an area that used to be dense with the species -- South Street was once lined with them -- the otherwise unremarkable tree on Elizabeth Street is now one of a handful in the Berkshires that seems to possess a natural resistance to Dutch elm disease, which ravaged the American elm population during the mid-20th century.

Tom Zetterstrom, a member of Elm Watch, an organization dedicated to protecting the remaining American elms in the region, is working with scientists from the Nature Conservancy who hope the Elizabeth Street tree and others like it can be tapped to breed new lines of Dutch elm disease-resistant American elms that can eventually be reintroduced to their natural forest habitat.

Read the full story at the [Berkshire Eagle](#).

Natural Regeneration Building Urban Forests, Altering Species Composition

ScienceDaily (Aug. 21, 2012) — In forested regions of the nation, natural regeneration may help cities achieve tree cover goals at the expense of maintaining the desired tree species.

A study by U.S. Forest Service scientists published recently in *Urban Forestry and Urban Greening* showed that on average, 1 in 3 trees in sampled cities were planted while two-thirds resulted from natural regeneration. However, for newly established, young trees in cities in forested regions, only about 1 in 12 trees (Syracuse, N.Y.) to 1 in 20 trees (Baltimore) were planted. The lower proportion of naturally regenerated trees in the entire city tree population may be because naturally regenerated trees have a higher mortality rate than planted trees, according to Dave Nowak, a research forester with the Forest Service's Northern Research Station and the study's principal investigator. Naturally regenerated trees typically have more competition for the water, light and nutrients that are needed for survival.

Read the full story at [ScienceDaily](#).

Fungi-infected Trees Full of Methane

By [Ike Swetlitz](#) Contributing Reporter Yale Daily News (CT), Tuesday, September 4, 2012

Some trees, when infected by microorganisms, may be emitting significant amounts of the greenhouse gas methane, according to a recent Yale study.

This study, published last month by a team of scientists at Yale, Columbia University, and the State University of New York at Buffalo in the journal *Geophysical Research Letters*, found that heart rot can produce high, sometimes flammable, levels of methane, which **decrease a tree's effectiveness as a carbon sink.**

"This study identifies a new, important source of methane, a greenhouse gas that is more potent than carbon dioxide," said Stephen Wood, a graduate student in ecology, evolution, and environmental biology at Columbia and one of the authors of the study. "To that end, it presents compelling data that methane production in trees should be figured into global circulation and climate models."

Read the full story at the [Yale Daily News](#).

Wind Concentrates Pollutants With Unexpected Order in an Urban Environment

ScienceDaily (Aug. 24, 2012) — Cities -- with their concrete canyons, isolated greenery, and congested traffic -- create seemingly chaotic and often powerful wind patterns known as urban flows. Carried on these winds are a variety of environmental hazards, including exhaust particles, diesel fumes, chemical residues, ozone, and the simple dust and dander produced by dense populations.

Read the full story at [ScienceDaily](#).

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 • Current and Back Issues of *The Citizen Forester* are available online:
 • www.mass.gov/dcr/stewardship/forestry/urban/citForester.htm
 •

Growing on Trees

Mass. Envirothon Workshop November 2nd

The Massachusetts Envirothon is a fun, challenging environmental program for high-school-age youth and their advisors, a year-long, extra-curricular program that gives young people useful knowledge and problem-solving experience. More than 500 young people in over 40 Massachusetts communities participate in some way every year. The program is enriched by a statewide network of scientists, educators, local officials, policymakers, businesspeople, resource managers, community activists, and parents who are all committed to preparing the next generation of environmentally-literate citizens and professionals. **This year's current issue for the Envirothon is "Trees, Forests, and Sustainability in Massachusetts."**

The Massachusetts Envirothon gives young people opportunities to:

- Get outdoors and explore – and gain first-hand **knowledge and experience of Massachusetts' varied ecosystems;**
- Engage with their communities and develop skills for investigating local environmental issues and participating in community decisions and action;
- Test their environmental knowledge and skills in a challenging competition;
- Grow in their commitment to stewardship of the environment and natural resources; and
- Cultivate a curiosity and a love of learning in science;
- Increase their awareness of career opportunities in the environmental field.

The first Envirothon workshop for 2012-2013, offered to teams and coaches, will be held all day, Friday, November 2, at UMass/Amherst. So whether you field **a team every year, or you've never participated in the Envirothon with your students, or if it's been awhile and you'd like to give your current students this unique learning experience,** now is the time to consider joining us in 2013!

For more information, go to <http://www.maenvirothon.org>

Municipal Forestry Institute Registration Open

The Municipal Forestry Institute (MFI) is a program of the Society of Municipal Arborists that will run February 17-23, 2013. MFI is an exciting, high-level training opportunity educating professionals in the leadership and managerial aspects of urban forestry. This week-long intensive educational program delivers a challenging opportunity to grow a more successful community tree program.

What does MFI Cover?

The Institute curriculum was developed by a team of urban forestry professionals and educators with dozens of years experience in leading urban forestry programs at the local, state, federal, and non-profit levels. There are four major components of the MFI curriculum:

- Developing A Leadership Approach To Your Position
- Thinking and Planning Strategically to Advance Urban Forestry Programs
- Working Effectively with Boards, Coalitions, and Non-Profit Organizations
- Managing the Relationship Between People and Trees

The curriculum is presented in a variety of formats including lectures, multi-media presentations, panel discussions, group exercises, and real-life scenarios.

For more information go to the Society of Municipal Arborists website: <http://www.urban-forestry.com/>

Wood Utilization Webcast 10/2

The USDA Forest Service Wood Education and Resource Center will host a webcast, October 2. This webcast will focus on issues and concerns that municipalities confront when establishing an urban wood utilization program. We will have presenters from Chicago, Cincinnati, and Minneapolis discussing various aspects of their utilization program efforts. This will be a great webcast for all municipal officials that have or are starting urban wood utilization programs. There will be plenty of time for questions.

If interested, please join us on Tuesday, October 2 at 10:00 AM (EDT) by clicking on the following link: <https://www.livemeeting.com/cc/usda/join?id=RGTC7&role=attend&pw=tK-%287%26Dwt>

AUDIO INFORMATION - Telephone conferencing
Use the information below to connect: Toll-free: +1
(888) 858-2144, Participant code: 7578516

FIRST-TIME USERS

To save time before the meeting, check your system to make sure it is ready to use Microsoft Office Live Meeting. <http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90703>

TROUBLESHOOTING

Unable to join the meeting? Follow these steps:

1. Copy this address and paste it into your web browser: <https://www.livemeeting.com/cc/usda/join>

2. Copy and paste the required information:
Meeting ID: RGTNC7 Entry Code: tK-(7&Dwt
Location: <https://www.livemeeting.com/cc/usda>

If you still cannot enter the meeting, contact support:
http://r.office.microsoft.com/r/rlidLiveMeeting?p1=12&p2=en_US&p3=LMIInfo&p4=support

NOTICE Microsoft Office Live Meeting can be used to record meetings. By participating in this meeting, you agree that your communications may be monitored or recorded at any time during the meeting.

How to Develop Effective Leadership in your Community

How do you empower leaders in your community to stand up and get involved in environmental justice issues? Watch [EPA's newest video](#) in our 20th Anniversary video series, featuring Teri Blanton, the former Chair for the citizens' group Kentuckians for the Commonwealth. Teri describes the lessons she has learned about helping local residents to take ownership over the decision-making processes, and how to train leaders to advocate for healthier communities. Watch it [here!](#)

The video series features government officials, nonprofit and industry leaders, and students who share stories about the lessons they have learned while working on environmental justice. Other videos contributions have come from [Vernice Miller Travis](#) of WEACTION, [Sue Briggum](#) of Waste Management, [Susana Almanza](#) of PODER, and [Reggie Harris](#) from EPA Region 3.

Emerald Ash Borer Information



Scientific Name: *Agrilus planipennis*

Common Name: Emerald Ash Borer, "EAB"

Known Hosts:

White ash (*Fraxinus americana*), black ash (*F. nigra*), red ash (*F. pennsylvanica*), green ash (*F. pennsylvanica* var. *subintegrifolia*) and several horticultural varieties of ash.

Key ID Features (Adults, Larvae):

- **The body is a golden green or brassy color overall with darker, metallic emerald green wing covers.**
- **Adults measure ½ in (8.5-13mm) in length.** Females are larger than males.
- **Adults are present from mid-May to late July and feed on leaves,** leaving irregularly-shaped patches with jagged edges.
- **Larvae are flattened in appearance, consisting of 10 cream-colored, bell-shaped segments with a pair of brown pinchers at one end.**
- **Larvae about 1-1 ¼ in (26- 32mm) in length when fully developed.**

Description of damage:

- **Distinct S-shaped tunnels** are formed beneath the bark from larval feeding.
- **Vertical splits in the bark are caused by callus tissue** forming in response to larval feeding.
- **Adult emergence leaves D-shaped exit holes** (3-4 mm in

diameter) in bark.

- **The upper third of the tree dies back.**
- **Numerous shoots arise below the dead portion of the trunk**

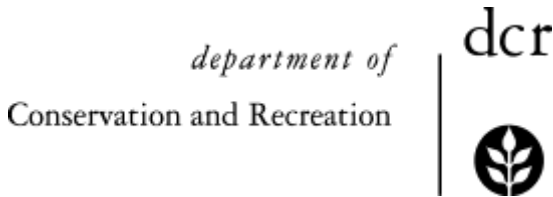
Similar Species:

- **The emerald ash borer is larger and a brighter green** than any of the native *Agrilus* species.
- **The two-lined chestnut borer (*Agrilus bilineatus*) and bronze birch borer (*Agrilus anxius*) are found attacking oak and birch trees, respectively.** See the USDA Forest Service fact sheets describing these pests: Bronze Birch Borer <http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/fidls/bbb/bbb.htm>, Two-lined Chestnut Borer <http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/fidls/chestnutborer/chestnutborer.htm>.

Fact sheets and references:

- **The latest information about emerald ash borer in the USA.** <http://www.emeraldashborer.info/>
- **USDA Forest Service Emerald Ash Borer Homepage** <http://na.fs.fed.us/fhp/eab/>
- **USDA, APHIS, PPQ Pest Detection Emerald Ash Borer Homepage** http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/emerald_ash_b/index.shtml

Adapted from the [Massachusetts Introduced Pest Outreach Project](#)



2012 Massachusetts Tree Steward Training Information

Program: The Training will include an overview of the following topics:

- Looking at Trees (an overview of tree benefits and urban forestry issues)
- Tree Identification / Proper Tree Planting Techniques
- Tree Assessment and Response to Pruning
- Emerald Ash Borer and Your Community
- Funding Urban and Community Forestry
- Urban Trees and the 2012 Growing Season
- Sustainable Urban Soils
- Utilizing your tree inventory
- i-Tree suite of software tools for urban forestry managers

Times and Dates: The 2012 Tree Steward Training will run from 9:00 a.m. on Friday, October 19, until 4:30 p.m. and Saturday, October 20, 8:00am -3:30pm. All participants are expected to attend the entire two-day session. *If you are unable to make this commitment, please do not register, but consider joining us next year.*

Location: In an effort to find trees, beauty and a central location, the training will take place both indoors and outdoors at the Fisher Museum at the Harvard Forest in Petersham, Massachusetts (see <http://harvardforest.fas.harvard.edu/siteinfo/directions.html> for directions).

Meals: will be provided as a part of the registration fee, which includes lunch and dinner on Friday breakfast and lunch Saturday.

Lodging: The Harvard Forest has accommodations for up to 20 people in an old farmhouse with some single and some shared rooms. We have reserved the farmhouse. Cost of lodging is \$55 per person.

Attire: Is causal; you should be prepared to go walking outside and even plant a tree.

Local Sponsor: We encourage you to approach local banks, real estate agents, or other businesses to sponsor you for this training. To facilitate this, upon request we can provide a letter to potential sponsors. Please feel free to adapt this letter and or create your own request letter. Please let us know if you are successful in soliciting a sponsor. With luck, these businesses will become continuing supporters of urban forestry in your community.

Other: If you have a particular program or materials that you believe others might find interesting, please let us know. We will try to have extra materials available for participants or may work a few additional presentations into the agenda.

Registration deadline: October 10.

Please see <http://www.mass.gov/dcr/stewardship/forestry/urban/urbanBranch.htm> or contact Mollie Freilicher, 413-577-2966, mollie.freilicher@state.ma.us for more information.

department of
Conservation and Recreation



2012 Massachusetts Tree Steward Training Registration Form

Tree Steward Training is offered by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation's Bureau of Forestry's Urban and Community Forestry Program, the USDA Forest Service and the Massachusetts Tree Wardens and Foresters Association. It is an annual program designed for community Tree Board members, Tree Wardens, tree activists, planners, interested citizens, and other municipal staff and green professionals interested in the topics and issues of urban and community trees and forests. It will provide foundation training in tree physiology, tree assessment, municipal tree management, and other urban and community forestry issues with the aim of developing better tree stewardship in Massachusetts' communities of all sizes.

We encourage at least two or three individuals from the same community to attend this session, ideally a mix of municipal staff and citizens. We also encourage participants to approach a local bank or other business to sponsor their registration fee for this event.

Registration

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____ Community: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please check below:

☐ I would like to attend the two-day Tree Steward Training program from 9:00 a.m. on Friday, October 19, until 3:30 p.m., Saturday, October 20, at the Fisher Museum at the Harvard Forest in Petersham, MA (see <http://harvardforest.fas.harvard.edu/siteinfo/directions.html> for directions).

☐ I agree to participate in the entire session, and contribute at least six (6) hours to urban and community forestry back in my community.

☐ Enclosed is my registration fee of \$55 payable to **"The Mass ReLeaf Trust Fund"** (This will cover program registration and meals, but not Friday night lodging).

☐ I also would like to reserve lodging at the Harvard Forest. I have included an additional \$55 to my registration fee. I understand that rooms may be shared. I would be happy to room with _____.

☐ I would prefer a single if possible.

Please return to: Mollie Freilicher, PO Box 484, Amherst, MA 01004, More information: mollie.freilicher@state.ma.us

On the Horizon

October	NeighborWoods Month, Register your volunteer event and get free gear: http://neighborwoodsmonth.org/
Oct 1	Deadline for Intent to Apply for <u>MA Urban & Community Forestry Challenge Grants</u>
Oct 2	USDA Forest Service Wood Utilization Webcast, www.na.fs.fed.us/werc
Oct 5	MCA Exam (first exam under version 2.0 of the Study Guide), Wellesley, MA, www.massarbor.org
Oct 13-14	Annual Women's Tree Climbing Workshop, Charlton, MA , www.newenglandisa.org
Oct 15	Portable Sawmill Workshop, Turners Falls, MA, www.nefainfo.org/
Oct 16	Portable Sawmill Workshop, Sandisfield, MA, www.nefainfo.org/ (More dates in New England, see www.nefainfo.org/ for workshops in RI, CT, VT, NH)
Oct 19-20	DCR Tree Steward Training, Petersham, MA Register Now!
Oct 20	Bark for Beginners, New England Wildflower Society, South Deerfield, MA www.newfs.org
Oct 30	MTWFA <u>Chainsaw Safety PDS</u> Workshop, Hopedale, MA
Oct 31 - Dec 12	UMass Extension Green School, Marlborough, MA, http://extension.umass.edu/landscape/
Nov 1	<u>MA Urban & Community Forestry Challenge Grant</u> Deadline
Nov 2	ISA Certified Arborist Exam, Norway, ME, http://newenglandisa.org

Nov 8-10	TCIA Expo, Baltimore, MD www.tcia.org
Nov 10	Pruning Fundamentals, New England Wildflower Society course, Framingham, MA www.newfs.org
Nov 11-13	New England Chapter ISA 46 th Annual Conference, Newport, RI, www.newenglandisa.org
Nov 13	ISA Certified Arborist Exam, Newport, RI, http://newenglandisa.org
Nov 12-13	Society of Municipal Arborists International Conference & Trade Show, Sacramento, CA http://www.urban-forestry.com/
Nov 14-16	Partners in Community Forestry National Conference, Sacramento, CA http://www.arboday.org/
Nov 15	Trees in the Urban Landscape Symposium, Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Boylston, MA www.towerhillbg.org
Nov 28-Dec 1	ASCA <u>Annual Conference</u> , Rancho Bernardo Inn, San Diego, CA
Dec 8	Shrubs in Winter, New England Wildflower Society, Framingham, MA, www.newfs.org
Dec 31	Tree City, Tree Line, Tree Campus USA Application Deadline

Register for the MA Tree Steward Training by Clicking Here:
<http://www.mass.gov/dcr/stewardship/forestry/urban/urbanBranch.htm>

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eric.seaborn@state.ma.us, (617) 626-1468

Mollie Freilicher, Community Action Forester
mollie.freilicher@state.ma.us, (413) 577-2966



Deval Patrick, Governor

Timothy Murray, Lieutenant Governor

Richard Sullivan, Secretary, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

Edward M. Lambert, Jr., Commissioner, Department of Conservation and Recreation

Peter Church, Director of Forest Stewardship, Department of Conservation and Recreation

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If you have a topic you'd like to see covered or want to submit something to *The Citizen Forester* (article, photo, event listing, etc.), please contact Mollie Freilicher

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